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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
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| 09/739,840 | 12/20/2000 | Nobuhiro Saitou | 826.1646/JDH | 3885 |

21171 7590 02/14/2003

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EXAMINER

WALLACE, SCOTT A

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|----------|--------------|
| ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
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2671

DATE MAILED: 02/14/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/739,840

Applicant(s)

SAITOU, NOBUHIRO

Examiner

Scott Wallace

Art Unit

2671

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ 6) ☐ Other: _____

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated Microsoft Org Chart.

3. As per claims 1, 11 and 15, Microsoft Org Chart discloses a graphics editing device, comprising: a display unit displaying a graphic including a first object, a second object and a third object that are connected in series (fig 2); an editor deleting the second object and connecting the first and the third objects when the second object is selected (figs 3 and 4).

4. As per claim 2, Microsoft Org Chart discloses wherein said editor displays the third object in a position where the second object used to be displayed when the second object is selected and deleted (fig 4).

5. As per claim 3, Microsoft Org Chart discloses a coordinate system providing unit providing a virtual coordinate system in which each box is defined as an area for displaying an object (fig 2), wherein said display unit displays each object using the virtual coordinate system and said editor locates each object using the virtual coordinate system (fig 2).

6. As per claim 4, Microsoft Org Chart discloses a display unit displaying a graphic including a plurality of first objects, a second object connected to the plurality of first objects and a third object connected to the second object (fig 5); and an editor deleting the second object and connecting each of the plurality of first objects and the third object when the second object is selected (figs 6 and 7).

7. As per claim 5, Microsoft Org Chart discloses a display unit displaying a graphic including a first object, a plurality of second objects connected to the first object and a third object connected to the plurality of second objects (fig 8); and an editor deleting the plurality of second objects and connecting each of the first object and the third object when the plurality of second objects is selected (figs 9 and 10).

8. As per claim 6, Microsoft Org Chart discloses a display unit displaying a graphic including a plurality of first objects, a second object connected to the plurality of first objects and a plurality of third objects connected to the second object (fig 11); and an editor deleting the second object and connecting each of the plurality of first objects and the plurality of third objects when the second object is selected (figs 12 and 13).

9. As per claims 7, 12 and 16, Microsoft Org Chart discloses a graphics editing device, comprising: a display unit displaying a graphic including a first object, a second object and a third object that are connected in series (fig 2); an editor deleting the second object and connecting the first and the third objects when the second object is moved to a predetermined area (fig 14).

10. As per claim 8, Microsoft Org Chart discloses a graphics editing device, comprising: a display unit displaying a graphic including a first object, a second object and a third object that are connected in series (fig 2); an editor deleting the second object and connecting the first and the third objects when the second object is moved to a specific relative position from a position of the graphic (fig 14).

11. As per claim 9, Microsoft Org Chart discloses said editor corrects a distance between the first and third objects according to a predetermined condition (figs 1-3).

12. As per claim 10, Microsoft Org Chart discloses a management unit managing a sequence of the objects, said management unit manages the third object as a subordinate object to the first object (fig 2), if the second object is subordinate to the first object and the third object is subordinate to the second object before the second object is deleted (fig 2).

13. As per claim 13, Microsoft Org Chart discloses a storage medium that stores a program executed by a computer, the program comprising: a program code of displaying a graphic including a first object, a second object and a third object that are connected in series (fig 2); and a program code deleting the second object and connecting the first and third objects when the second object is selected (figs 3 and 4).

14. As per claim 14, Microsoft Org Chart discloses a storage medium that stores a program executed by a computer, the program comprising: a program code of displaying a graphic including a first object, a second object and a third object that are connected in series (fig 2); and a program code deleting the

second object and connecting the first and third objects when the second object is moved to a predetermined area. (figs 3 and 4).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to **Scott Wallace** whose telephone number is **703-605-5163**.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, **Mark Zimmerman**, can be reached at 703-305-9798.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:


Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

or faxed to:

(703) 872-9314 (for Technology Center 2600 only)

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA, Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Technology Center 2600 Customer Service Office whose telephone number is (703) 306-0377.


MARK ZIMMERMAN
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600